

## Message Text

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63

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:BR:RWZIMMERMANN:LK

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

ARA:HARYAN

S/S:MR. MOFFAT

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O 052147Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 104657

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, PFOR, BR

SUBJECT: SEIZURE OF SHRIMP VESSELS: DEMARCHE BY AMBASSADOR  
CASTRO

1. AMBASSADOR ARAUJO CASTRO CALLED THIS MORNING ON  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS REGARDING THE OPERATION OF  
SECTION 3(B) OF FOREIGN MILITARY SALES ACT AS A RESULT  
OF THE BRAZILIAN SEIZURE OF 2 US FLAG SHRIMP VESSELS.

2. AMBASSADOR CASTRO DEMONSTRATED EXTRAORDINARY SENSITI-  
VITY TO TWO ASPECTS OF CASE. FIRST HE SAID HE HAD "VERY  
STRICT INSTRUCTIONS" TO MAKE CLEAR GOB HAD NOT SOUGHT  
WAIVER AND WOULD SHOW NO INTEREST IN EXPEDITING PROCESSING  
OF WAIVER. HIS POINT WAS THAT ANY SUCH INTEREST ON PART  
GOB COULD PREJUDICE THEIR LOS POSITION. SECONDLY HE  
REPEATEDLY REFERRED TO FACT NO FORMAL NOTIFICATION HAD  
BEEN GIVEN TO GOB REGARDING SUSPENSION OF MILITARY  
ASSISTANCE. SPECIFICALLY HE SAID ORAL REMARKS TO SERGIO  
BATH ON US LEGAL IMPLICATIONS COULD HARDLY BE CONSIDERED  
"NOTIFICATION".

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3. CASTRO THEN SAID HE CONSIDERED MATTER TO BE EXTREMELY  
SERIOUS ("ONE OF MOST UNFORTUNATE INCIDENTS IN OUR  
RELATIONS"), BOTH IN TERMS GENERAL BRAZILIAN REACTION IF

ISSUE COMES TO ATTENTION OF PRESS AND IN TERMS EFFECT  
ON PREVAILING ATMOSPHERE IN OUR RELATIONS.

4. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS ASSURED CASTRO THAT THERE  
WAS NOTHING MACHIAVELLIAN IN OUR PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER  
REQUEST. THE NECESSARY STEPS TO COUNTERBALANCE THE US  
LEGAL EFFECTS OF THE SEIZURES WERE A UNILATERAL MATTER  
AND WE FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT GOB HAS MADE NO REQUESTS  
WHATSOEVER IN THIS REGARD. MR. ROGERS EMPHASIZED THAT  
NOTHING HAD HAPPENED IN ANY REAL SENSE NOR WOULD ANYTHING  
HAPPEN EXCEPT A BRIEF DELAY IN CERTAIN FMS PROGRAMS;  
CERTAINLY US HAD NO INTENTION OF MAKING ANY PUBLIC STATE-  
MENT REGARDING SUSPENSION UNDER FOREIGN MILITARY SALES  
ACT.

5. WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS SOONEST ON  
POSSIBLE REASONS BEHIND THIS STRONG AND RATHER UNEXPECTED  
DEMARCHE BY AMBASSADOR CASTRO. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FISHING BOATS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS, POLICIES, SHIP DETENTION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE104657  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARA:BR:RWZIMMERMANN:LK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D750157-0703  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t197505101/baaaaitk.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04 SEP 2003 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <25 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971006  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** EFIS, MASS, PFOR, PLOS, BR, US, (ARAUJO CASTRO)  
**To:** BRASILIA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006